

MINUTES

OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE of the Non-resistant Relief Organization, held in the Wideman Church, Markham, April 8th, 1919.

Members present as follows-: L. J. Burkholder, Samuel Goudie, D. W. Heise, Thos Reesor, S. F. Coffman, Chris Gasho, J. R. Bender, Chris Shultz, and L. B. Heise. Eld Samuel Goudie in the Chair.

The meeting was ~~#####~~ opened by singing, and prayer by several Brethern.

(1) The Minutes of the Oct, 30th, 1918. And Jan'y 7th, 1919 Meetings were read, and no objections having offered were declared approved.

(2) Letters from David Bergy, and C. N. Good, were read. In which regrets were expressed of their inability to be present, and wishing the blessing of God upon the meeting and its deliberations.

(3) The Treasurer presented his Report of Receipts and Expenditures as follows-: Receipts of Expence Fund, \$ 455.96. Expenditures, \$ 303.20. balance on hand, \$ 152.76. Memorial Fund Receipts, \$ 68,367.62. Expenditures, \$ 60,005.50. balance on hand, \$8,362.12.

(4) S. F. Coffman, secd by L. B. Heise, moves that the Report be accepted. The Motion was carried.

(5) The secretary read an appeal from the Canadian Serbian Relief Committee, asking for consideration in a financial way on the part of this organization. After some discussion, J. L. Burkholder, secd by J. R. Bender, that, \$ 8,000.00. be appropriated to the said Committee. The Motion found unanimous favor.

(6) D. W. Heise, secd by J. R. Bender, moves that, S. F. Coffman, be authorized to collect, and compile data, and information relative to the experience of our young men who were called up for duty under the Military Service Act, etc 1917, and also that of those who took an active interest on behalf of these Boys during the trying times of the past summer. And further, that search be made concerning Imperial enactments that may have been made in years past for the special protection of Non-resistant religious bodies.

(7) L. J. Burkholder, secd by L. B. Heise, moved in ammendment, that Samuel Goudie, and D. W. Heise be associated with Bro Coffman in this work. The ammendment was carried, after which the original motion as emmended was sustained.

(8) The meeting was moved to adjourn for lunch.

AFTER NOON MEETING

- (9) L. J. Burkholder, secd by D. W. Heise, moves that, members of this organization coming by Train to attend meetings of the Body, shall have their R. R. Fair paid from the expence fund of the organization. The motion carried.
- (10) S. F. Coffman, secd bt J. R. Bender moves that this Body RE-organize. Carried.
- (11) S. F. Coffman, secd by J. R. Bender, moves that, the membership, and Officers of the organization as they now stand, shall continue for the ensueing year, This actio to be subject to the approval of the various bodies represented in the organization. Motion Carried.
- (12) S. F. Coffman, secd by Chris Gasho, moves that the Executive Committee take ateps to ascertain avenues of usefulness for the purposes of this organization, and where the greatest needs may obtain. Motion Carried.
- (13) Motion to adjourn to meet again at the call of the shair was sustained.

Eld Samuel Goudie.
Chairman.

D. W. Heise.
Secretary.

THE BETHESDA AND STOUFFVILLE TELEPHONE COMPANY, LIMITED

I cannot lay my hands on the type written copy of these minutes and I think you may have a copy. I am, however, inclosing this in case you have not.

HEAD OFFICE:

STOUFFVILLE, CANADA.

Nov 19th 1919

not.
Apr 22-20
DWH

Minutes of Executive Meeting N.P.P.O.
held in Wideman Church Nov 19-19

members all present. L.J.B. in chair.

1. Minutes of County of whole held Apr 8th 1919 were read by Secy. No action
2. The chair asked for a report from the Treas which showed a bal in memorial fund of \$2611⁰⁰
3. Correspondence from Rev Mrs Pearce, and Wm Banks, representing the Armenian & Servian Relief Board, and Soldiers aid Commission respectfully
4. S. Gaudin read to Gasho that the Secy follow up the work of the Soldiers Aid Commission, and learn if possible how the donation of 15,000 of last Spring is being expended. — carried —
5. S. Gaudin read by S. Gasho, moves that a general appeal for relief work in connection with suffering and destitute occasioned by the late war, be made forthwith to the various branches of the Christian Church constituting this organization, that each branch be asked to work out a method that may be best adapted to the conditions obtaining in each body to accomplish the object of this appeal, that the appeal shall close, and all donations to be reported to the Secy Treasurer not later than Mar 1 1920.

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7

HEAD OFFICE:

STOUFFVILLE, CANADA, 191.....

It was also decided that each member of this County, as certain if possible the amounts of money raised by the Body they represent for charitable or benevolent purposes during 1919—

6. Thos Pessor tendered his resignation as Treasurer of this organization, which on motion of S Goudie second by C. Gosh was accepted.
7. D W Heise, second by S Goudie moves that 1250 of the memorial fund be appropriated to each of the Armenian and Servian Relief work, and that the cheques issue immediately— card
8. S Goudie second by C Gosh moves that the Secy also act as Treasurer for the remainder of organization year. card
9. Thos Pessor second by S Gaudin moves to adjourn to meet again at the call of the Chair

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE NON-RESISTANT RELIEF ORGANIZATION.

Held in the City of Kitchener, April 13th, 1920.

Members present,

L. J. Burkholder, Samuel Goudie, D. W. Heise, S. F. Coffman
C. N. Good, E. Sievenpiper, Chr. Gascho, Reuben Heise, and L. B. Heise.

Meeting opened by invocation, Etc.

- (1) Minutes of last Annual Meeting were read and, on Motion, Approved.
- (2) Considerable time was taken up with informal discussion, on various aspects of the work of the Organization.
- (3) S. F. Coffman, seconded by C. Gascho, moves that the Treasurer include in his financial report all funds for relief work contributed thru any other channels during the year, by the bodies represented in this organization., as submitted to him by the various Treasurers or other authorized persons.- Carried.
- (4) Motion to adjourn for the noon hour was carried.

After-noon Meeting.

- (1) The Treasurer submitted the financial report as follows:-

Total receiptd for Memorial Fund, - - - - -	\$ 3369.93
Total Disbursements, - - - - -	2800.40
Balance on hand,	569.53
- (2) Total receipt~~ts~~ for Expense Fund, - - - - - 114.93

Total Disbursements, - - - - -	41.30
Balance on hand,	73.63
Interest,	3.88
Total,	\$ 77.51
- (3) S. F. Coffman, seconded by L. B. Heise, moves that the Treasurer's report be accepted and passed over to the Auditors.- Carried.
- (4) The Committee appointed at the last Annual Meeting for the purpose of compiling information and data relative to exemptions, reported no progress having been made.
- (5) It was decided that the Committee mentioned shall be retained for further effort along the lines indicated.
- (6) It was unanimously decided that the Organization should not disband at this time, but that it should be continued.
- (7) S. Goudie, seconded by S. F. Coffman, moves that L. J. Burkholder continue the Chairmanship of the Organization.- Carried.
- (8) C. N. Good, seconded by D. W. Heise, moves that Samuel Goudie be Vice-Chairman. - Carried.

N-R. R. 9.- Apr.13/20.

- (9) C. N. Good, seconded by Chr. Gascho, Moves that S. F. Coffman be Secretary-Treasurer.- Carried.
- (10) C. N. Good, seconded by R. Heise, moves that the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary-Treasurer, L. B. Heise, Chr. Gascho and Thos. Reesor constitute the Executive Board.- Carried.
- (11) Samuel Goudie, seconded by L. B. Heise, moves that William French and Reuben Heise act as Auditors. - Carried.
- (12) It was decided that the following be recognized as Treasurers for the various bodied represented in this Organization, vis.- C. N. Good, M. C. Cressman, N. M. Bearinger, Chr. Gascho and L. B. Heise.
- (13) The meeting was voted to adjourn.

L. J. Burkholder,
Chairman,

D. W. Heise,
Secretary.

REPORT OF A CALLED MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF
THE NON-RESISTANT RELIEF ORGANIZATION
held at the Mennonite Home Mission, Danforth Ave., Toronto,
December 5th, 1920, 2 o'clock P. M.

The meeting was called to order by the President, L. J. Burkholder,
at 2.40 P. M.

The following members were present:- L. J. Burkholder, Samuel Goudie,
S. F. Coffman, L. B. Heise and Chrostian Gascho. The following persons
were present by invitation:- David Heise, Samuel Bender and Nelson Martin.

Moved by S. Goudie and Seconded by L. B. Heise, That the money on
hand in the Treasury be used at once for relief work in China, subject to
favorable guarantees for the distribution of funds.- Carried.

Moved by S. Goudie, Seconded by C. Gascho, That D. Heise shall see
the proper persons as to securing guarantees for the distribution of
relief funds in foreign lands and report to the Secretary.- Carried.

Owing to the absence of S. F. Coffman, D. Heise was elected
Secretary, pro tem.

Moved by L. B. Heise, Seconded by S. Goudie, That an immediate
general appeal be made to the congregations represented in this
Organization on behalf of the famine sufferers in China, this to be
done through circulars setting forth the facts, Etc.- Carried.

Moved by L. B. Heise, Seconded by C. Gascho, That L. J. Burkholder
and S. Goudie be a Committee to formulate a circular letter as above
referred to, 3500 to be printed.- Carried.

Moved by S. Goudie, Seconded by L. B. Heise, to adjourn.- Carried.

S. F. Coffman, and D. Heise, Secretaries.

FINANCIAL REPORT OF
THE NON-RESISTANT RELIEF ORGANIZATION.

December 24, 1920.

General Fund

1920			
May 14	Received from former Treasurer,	\$656.48	
	Balance of Relief Account,	2.09	
	Solomon Cober Contribution,	10.00	
	Fry Congregation, Armenian Fund.	47.00	
		<u>\$715.57</u>	
May 14	Transferred to Expense Account,		\$ 89.00
	D.Heise, Armenian Fund of Fry Congregation,		47.00
May 25	Bank Exchange on Cheque,		.65
Dec.15	D. A. Cameron, for China famine relief,		<u>575.00</u>
			<u>\$711.65</u>
Dec. 24	Balance on hand, less interest,	\$3.92	

Expense Fund.

May 14	Received from former Treasurer,	\$89.00	
May 25	Cheques issued by former Treasurer m Apr.16		\$11.53
June 1	John Sider, Expenses to camps		15.00
Dec.13	Corson & Son, Markham, Printing 3500 Circulars	33.48	
		<u>\$59.01</u>	60.01
Dec. 24	Balance on hand,	\$28.99	

S. F. Coffman, Sec. Treas.

Meeting of the Executive Committee of the
Non-Resistant Relief Organizatio.

Held at the home of Brother J. L. Byer,

Markham Ontario, November, 30, 1921.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, L. J. Burkholder, at 9.30 A. M. The meeting was opened with prayer, led by Bro. S. Goudie.

Members present at this meeting, were, L. J. Burkholder, S. Goudie, L. B. Heise, Chr, Gascho, and Wm.M. McGuire, paator at Stouffville who w was accorded the privileges of the meeting.

Moved by S. F. Coffman, Seconded by S. Goudie, that the Secretary secure final data of contributions to China relief and include in report of t this meeting to the Executive Committee.

It was also suggested that a report of all relief, as far as possible, should be secured.

Moved by S. Goudie, seconded by Chr. Gascho, That, in view of the situation in Russia, an appeal be made among our Non-resistant People for relief funds to aid the suffering brethren in that country.

It was suggested that 150 copies of this appeal should be distributed among the ministers of the several bodies.

Upon motion, it was decided that the expenses of Chr. Gascho and S. F. Coffman, in attending this meeting, be paid by the Organization.

Upon motion by S. F. Coffman, seconded by L. W. Heise, the meeting was adjourned, sine die.

30 copies mailed for
distribution to your
ministers

AN APPEAL FOR THE RELIEF OF SUFFERING
AMONG THE NON-RESISTANT BRETHREN IN SOUTH RUSSIA.

At a called meeting of the Executive Committee of the Non-Resistant Relief Organization, held near Markham Ont. November 30th, it was decided to appeal to our Non-Resistant congregations to render aid to our suffering brethren in the districts of Southern Russia.

The Non-Resistant brethren in Russia prospered, enjoyed liberty of conscience and practiced their non-resistant faith under the former established government. From the time the revolutionary movements began in that country they have suffered from all sources and at the hands of nearly all parties and from marauding bands. Their lands have been confiscated and their produce, implements and stock taken from them. They have been deprived of their household goods and clothing. They have suffered bodily harm and dishonor and some have suffered death at the hands of their foes.

These brethren are in distressing circumstances. It is not now a time to sow and reap if they had the means to do so. All of Russia is in a famished condition, and in Russia there is no relief. Millions will die of starvation in spite of all the relief that can be sent to them. Many will perish for the lack of clothing and shelter. Russia's climate is much the same as ours. 100,000 Mennonites live in South Russia.

Until the present time no relief has reached our brethren in Russia. Former efforts to bring relief to them failed on account of the opposition of the Government in power. Their condition has grown from bad to worse since the time the first relief was attempted.

The American Relief Commission, under the supervision of the U. S. Government, has secured permission from the Soviet Government in Russia to do relief work in that country. The Central Relief Committee, representing different branches of the Mennonite Church, and carrying on relief work among fugitive Mennonites and Russians in Constantinople, has secured permission to do relief work in Southern Russia under and in connection with the American Relief Commission, and with the approval of the Russian Government. This guarantees the safety of the workers and success to the work.

Money contributions are called for. Food will be purchased ^{red} in that country from the American Relief Commission at about American prices, and forwarded as directed. One-fourth of the purchase money will be retained by the American Relief Commission for the relief of women and children in most needy circumstances in other districts. But all of the funds will be used to relieve suffering and saving precious lives. This is the most advantageous arrangement possible.

Remember the children, the people, the brethren for whom Christ died. Remember the bounties with which He has blessed us, and what He would have us do with His gifts under these circumstances. Remember our faithful stewardship. Remember the day of Judgment, - "in as much as ye have done it unto the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Each congregation should send their contributions through the usual channels to avoid misunderstandings and confusion.

Yours for the suffering, in the name of Jesus,
Non-Resistant Relief Organization.
Per S. J. Coffin, Sec. Treas.

Vineland Ont.
Dec. 14, 1921.

A MEETING OF A DELEGATION OF MENNONITES WITH
THE HONOURABLE CHARLES STEWART, ACTING MINISTER OF IMMIGRATION
AND COLONIZATION.

Ottawa, Ont., March 29th, 1922.

A delegation comprised of the following representatives of Mennonite districts,- A.A.Friessen, Delegate from Russia, H.H.Ewert, from Western Canada, S.Goudie, of the Mennonite Brethren in Christ, Ontario, S.F.Coffman, of the Mennonite Conference of Ontario, and Gerhard Ens, of Rosthern, Sask., Met in the office of the Acting Minister of Immigration and Colonization at 10 o'clock, and were introduced to the Minister by Mr. W.B.Euler, Member of Parliament from North Waterloo, and also met at the same time the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Motherwell, of Sask.

In introducing the Delegation, Mr. Euler referred to his acquaintance with the Mennonite people and the favorable opinion which he has of them. He also referred to the acquaintance which the Prime Minister, Mr. King, has of the Mennonite people, and their particular problems, and the favorable attitude which he takes regarding these questions. He stated that the question in which the Delegation is interested has been talked over between themselves and that the Government was favorably inclined toward the interests of the Mennonite people, and felt that they were unduly handicapped by some of the previous legislation.

The Statement and Petition of the Mennonites was then read by S.F.Coffman, and explanations were made pertinent to these statements and petition. It was explained how that the Order-in-Council which classed the Mennonites among the undesirables who were not allowed immigration privileges had injured the business interests of our people and had subjected them to reproach and persecution needlessly, and had placed them under a wrong light before people who knew them only in name.

H.H.Ewert explained the standing of the Mennonites in the West on the question of education, showing that the privileges granted by the Government caused the first difficulty on account of the conflict which the privilege brought about with the Provincial Governments. He showed that a large percentage of the brethren in the West had complied with the local demands concerning the school law and that the exercise of patience on the part of the authorities would have resulted in a more satisfactory condition and a possible solution of the differences. He also stated that, while the dissatisfied section of the Mennonites in the West showed no spirit of resentment toward the Government for not granting the school and language privileges, there seemed to be no inclination on their part to desist from their purpose of migrating to other parts. He made it clear that at least two-thirds of the Mennonites in the West had adopted the school systems and standards as prescribed by Government regulations.

A.A.Friessen stated the position of the Mennonites in Russia on the language and education questions. He stated that they had adopted the language of the country for all of their educational work, using the German for their religious instruction only, which necessarily was required to be in German. He stated that there was no law in Russia against the use of the German language for religious purposes. He stated that there would be no hesitation on the part of the Mennonites in Russia in accepting the language and school systems of Canada in case they were admitted to this country. They asked no special privileges in regard to schools and language. He stated also that the Russian brethren would expect from the Government the exercise of patience until the change in language and customs could be effected.

The Minister, Mr. Stewart, had to say concerning the Order-in-Council, that he saw no reason on his part for the law having been made to discriminate against the Mennonites, and that he believed it

Meeting.-2.

to be necessary to revoke the same. He believed this position to be the opinion of the members of the Government, and that it was their purpose to to, at an early date, take this matter into consideration, and in his opinion, it would be revoked. He inquired concerning the number of Mennonites leaving Canada, and was informed that the number of the Old Colony people was about 20% or 25% of the whole Mennonite population in the West, but no one could tell whether or not they all would leave the country. He also inquired concerning the possibility of of Mennonites leaving Russia at this time, and was informed that the Ukrainian Government had granted the privilege of immigration to refugees and also to a y individuals who had permission to enter another country.

The Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Motherwell, inquired whether it was expected to that the special privileges granted to the Mennonites were to be perpetuated, and how long. It was stated in reply that in so far as the faith of non-resistance was concerned, it had been the faith of the Church for centuries and had been maintained by our people during the time of the war, and that at the present time the same belief was held even more strongly by our people was gaining in strength among others as well, which fact was acceded to by the Minister himself.

The Minister of Immigration suggested the policy of limiting settlements to small groups, rather than in large colonies, for the sake of speeding assimilation.

H. H. Bwert inquired of the Government concerning the extending of credit to the Mennonites from Russia to pay transportation expenses, providing the immigrants would give joint notes to the Government and these be secured by the Mennonite Church in Canada. The Minister of Immigration stated that the Government could give no aid, but since this would be in the nature of a loan he would consider the matter with his colleagues.

The Delegation did not try to elicit an expression from the Ministers concerning military exemption since there is proposed legislation with regard to the repeal of the Military Service Act of 1917, in which case the status of the Mennonites as a class would remain unchanged from what it was before the war.

The Delegation feels that the audience given by the members of the Government was acceptable and will not be unfruitful of results.

Ottawa, Canada,
March 29th 1922.

COPY.

AN INTERVIEW WITH THE PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA, MR. W. L. MACKENZIE KING on March 30th, 1922, at the office of the Prime Minister, there being present A. A. Friesen, H. H. Ewert and Gerhard Ens.

The Delegation informed the Prime Minister that they had already seen the Acting Minister of Immigration and Colonization, Mr. Stewart, about the revoking of the Order-in-Council prohibiting Mennonites from immigrating to Canada, and that the Minister had told them that he was in favor of revoking this Order, and that he would bring it before the Council for discussion and action. The Prime Minister expressed himself in full agreement with the attitude of Mr Stewart, and that he would press most energetically for the lifting of the encumbrance.

It was also suggested to him that the Government might be appealed to to facilitate the immigration of the Mennonites from Russia by extending a loan covering the expenses of the passage. The Prime Minister did not commit himself in regard to this question, but the Delegation got the impression that he might consider the proposition favorably.

The urgency of the question of immigration was still further impressed upon him by telling him how anxiously our people in starving Russia were desiring to get permission to come to Canada. It was also pointed out to him that the immigration of the Mennonites in 1874 had meant much for Canada and that this immigration might exceed the former immigration in extent and importance. He was also informed that the Government formerly, in a time of distress, had advanced to the Mennonites a loan of \$100,000 which the Mennonites paid back to the Government in due time.

At the close of the interview the Prime Minister inquired as to whether the children of these immigrants generally stuck to the faith of the fathers. Upon receiving an affirmative answer he expressed himself as much pleased that such was the case.-Friesen, Ewert, Ens.

COPY.

AN INTERVIEW WITH THE MINISTER OF IMMIGRATION AND COLONIZATION, MR. CHARLES STEWART, April 3rd, 1922, in the office of the Minister there being present A. A. Friesen and Gerhard Ens.

The Minister was asked regarding the meeting of the Council on Saturday at which time the revoking of the Order-in-Council was to be discussed. He replied that on account of other pressing business it had not been discussed, but that he hoped that it would be discussed at the next meeting of the Council on Saturday, Next, and that he had no doubt of a favorable outcome.

The Minister was then asked as to the attitude of the Government toward exemption of the Russian Mennonites from military service. He stated that, at the present time it would be difficult to grant special privileges in this respect, but that the laws of Canada would be applied equally to all Mennonites, and the Russian Mennonites need not worry about this matter. The Minister was then asked whether any restrictions for the Russian Mennonites would be connected with the lifting of the Order-in-Council. The Minister stated emphatically that this would not be done, whereupon the Delegation expressed their fullest satisfaction. The Minister added that this was his personal view and that he was sure that this was also the sentiment of the Government.

The Delegation then asked the Minister whether Canadian Mennonites may proceed with the preparatory organization of the immigration of the Russian Mennonites, pending the revocation of the Order-in-Council. The Minister stated thereupon that it would be perfectly safe to go ahead and that in his opinion there was no reason for fear and delay.-Friesen, Ens.

A STATEMENT AND PETITION OF THE MENNONITES
OF ONTARIO AND WESTERN CANADA.

To the Honourable Charles Stewart,
Minister of Immigration and Colonization,
Ottawa Canada.

Honourable Sir:-

It is with heartfelt gratitude that we, the Mennonite people residing in Canada, record the many favors which the Government of Canada has granted to us and the great consideration that has been given to our problems, both of life and of religious convictions, in the years that are passed. The peculiar relationship which our people have sustained to the problems of the nation in the past have been understood by many people and has resulted in unfounded prejudices and unwarranted opposition.

The Government of Canada has had a full acquaintance with the Mennonite people and understands the principles of peace and Good will which our people have been wont to put into practice in their daily life. It is known that they have put forth special efforts in ministering relief and succour, both during and since the time of hostilities. Even now, our organizations and facilities for relief work are increasing, and we are engaged in ministering relief in many fields where suffering abounds. In Canada, (Ontario) a partial report estimates that over \$100,000.00 Dollars have been donated by the non-resistant people for relief work, and donations are constantly given for these purposes. We regret the incidents which have arranged the harmonious relations between the Government and our people. We feel, however, that misunderstandings have existed, and that indirect influences have effected these differences.

The Order-in-Council of June 9, 1919, was passed after the entering into Canada of the communistic people, called the Hutterites. Their communistic practices were looked upon as limiting their possibilities of naturalization. Yet these principles have never been held by Mennonites. The pressure that was brought to bear against this class of people has caused that the Mennonites were included. This involves a class of people in which the many were made to suffer for the sake of restricting the few. May we state that Mennonites having been classed as undesirable many respectable citizens of this and other countries were stigmatized and the lawful interests and social life were handicapped. Many business men found their interests restricted and their business limited on account of their religious beliefs and their name, Mennonite. May we suggest to your department, that whatever may be done to remove this disability will be highly appreciated by many worthy and loyal citizens of Canada.

The recognition of actual conditions existing among the Mennonites of Canada would be helpful in effecting a closer union of the interests of the Canadian people. We know that difficulties have existed and do exist in some sections among our people in the West, chiefly with regard to questions of language and education. It should be definitely understood that these questions have never at any previous time caused any difficulty on the part of our people. In Ontario the Mennonites have always supported the public school system and educated their children in the English language. Neither in the United States nor in Russia have the Mennonites refused to adopt the public school system and the language of the country. Among the Mennonites in the West, the majority have also adopted the public school system and give instruction in the English language. It is only because of guarantees given by the Dominion Government under Orders-in-Council that a section of Mennonites in the West claim the privilege of maintaining private schools and teaching their own children in their own language. It is well known that

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Report of
ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NON-RESISTANT RELIEF ORGANIZATION?
held in the
First Mennonite Church, Kitchener, Ont.,
April 18, 1922.

At the call of the Chairman, the annual meeting of the Non-Resistant Relief Organization was called into session at the First Mennonite Church Kitchener, Ont, April 18th, 1922, Brother L. J. Burkholder, Chairman, presiding.

The following members of the Organization were present.-
L. J. Burkholder, Samuel Goudie, S.F.Coffman, L.B.Heise, David bergey, Christian Gasho, Jacob R. Bender, also Noah B. Bearinger, unofficially.

The Secretary read the minutes of the previous meeting, which, unamended, were sustained.

The Committee on Compiling records of experiences of our brethren during the late war and Searching records for legislation regarding military exemptions gave a report through S. F. Coffman and S Goudie.

Onmmotion of L. B. Heise, seconded by J.BBender, the report was accepted and the Committee retained.

A motion was sustained that the Brethren J.R.Bender, Noah Bearinger, L.B.Heise, S. Goudie and S.F.Coffman shall collect data from the several bodies of our Organization regarding the experiences of our brethren in camps and before military Tribunals for compiling and prervation.

The members of the Organization who accompanied the Russian Brethren to Ottawa, M₃rch 29th,1922, to interview the Government regarding the revocation of the Order-in-Council prohibiting the immigration of Mennonites and securing privileges for the suffering brethren in Russia to settle in Canada, reported to the meeting through S. Goudie and S.F.Coffman. The report was approved.

Moved by David Bergey and seconded by C.Gasho that the travelling expenses of the brethren S.F.Coffman and S. Goudie be paid out of the expense fund of the Organization.- Carried.

It was also moved and carried, That the expenses of the brethren attending this meeting be paid out of the expense fund.

A motion was made and sustained, That an appeal be made to our congregations for funds to defray further expenses of this Organization, and that such contributions above the amount required for the expense fund shall be placed in the relief funds.

It was moved by Brother D vid Bergey and seconded by J.R.Bender, That all of the officers shall be reelected,- Carried.

Upon farther consideration it was discovered that the reelection of all officers gave some of the bodies represented too large a quots of members on the Executive Committee, whereupon a motion was made by L.J.Burkholder, seconded by S.F.Coffman that the election of officers be reconsidered.- Carried.

Brother D.Bergey then moved the election of S. Goudie as Chairman of the Organization, and the motion, seconded by D. Bergey, was carried.

Moved by D. Bergey, seconded by S.Goudie, That L.B.Heise be elected vice-chairman,- Carried.

Moved by D.Bergey, seconded by J.R.Bender, That S.F.Coffman be reelected Secretary Treasurer.- Carried.

The following members, with the officers of the Organization, were electedmembers of the Executice Committee.- C. Gasho and N.B.Bearinger.

The members of the Organization representing the various bodies in the organization, are as follows.-

S.Goudie,Steuffville, R.Sievenpiper,181Burwick Ave.,Toronto,C.M.Good
53 Cameron st. Kitchener, C Gasho, Buder, J.R.Bender, Timsted, R.L.C. Shultz, Militaire

(over)

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NON-RESISTANT RELIEF ORGANIZATION
Held in the Church of the Mennonite Brethren in Christ,
Mount Joy, Markham Ont., March 29, 1923.

The meeting was called to order by the Chaitman, Bro. Samuel Goudie. at 9.45 A.M. Levi Heise and S.F.Coffman led in prayer.

Members present were S. Goudie, S.F.Coffman, Levi Heise, Silas Cressman, Christian Gascho and Christian Schultz.

The minutes of the Secretary not being as hand the report was not given.

The report of the Cpmmittee to compile statistics and experiences of our brethren who passed before military tribunals and in camps, was not ready but was considered for some time.

A motion, by S? Cressman and L. Heise, That the Committee to collect statistics and compile reports be retained and urged to carry on their work, was passed. - S.F.Coffman and S. Goudie, the Committee.

Upon motion by L. Heise and S.F.Coffman, Samuel Goudie was elected Chairman of the Non-resistant Relief Organization for the coming year.

S.Cressman and C. Gascho supported the motion to elect S.F.Coffman as Secretary Treasurer for the coming year.- Carried.

The following Brethren were elected as the Executive Committee for the coming year:- S.Goudie, D.W.Heise, S.F.Coffman, Chr. Gascho, Thos. Bessor.
Mennonite

The prospectus of the/Colonization Association of North America was read by the Secretary and was given extended consideration and discussion; and also the relation of our respective districts to the work of the Colonization Association was gone into with careful consideration. Resolution .-

Resolved, "That we hereby express our approval of the purposes set forth and of the work done by the Mennonite Colonization Association of North America, Limited, and we recommend that the respective bodies represented in our Relief Organization take such steps in aiding the Colonization Association in the work of bringing out of Russia our suffering brethren in the faith as each body may find best adapted to their circumstances; we also urge that substantial aid should be given in order to meet the great financial needs and burdens connected with the relief project.

It was also Resolved, That the Secretary be instructed to correspond with the Mennonite Colonization of North America Limited, regarding the plan of payment of shares, so as to accomodate the needs of subscribers in Ontario, and to give assurance to their investments.

Whereas the matter of bringing in Mennonite refugees from other countries than Russia was considered, We recommend that Brother L.J.Burkholder be instructed to secure information pertaining yo the matter from the Immigration department at Toronto, and report his findings to the Secretary who shall in turn report to the members of the N/R.R. Organization.

Upon motion of S. Cressman, the meeting adjourned at 3.45 P.M.

Treasurer's Report.

Balance in Bank, To Expense Account, Mar. 29, 1923. \$40.84.

S. F. Coffman, Secretary.

NON-RESISTANT RELIEF ORGANIZATION.

Report of Annual Meeting, held in the Mennonite Brethren in Christ, Church, Kitchener Ontario, April 9, 1924.

The meeting was called to order at 9.30 A. M. by the Chairman, Brother Samuel Goudie. Members present were, Silas Cressman, Ephraim Sievenpiper, L. J. Burkholder, David Bergey and S. F. Coffman.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read, and, upon Motion, were approved.

The report of the Secretary, who had been instructed at the last meeting to correspond with the Canadian Mennonite Board of Colonization regarding the Russian Mennonite Immigration, was then given. Upon motion by Brethren L. J. Burkholder and E. Sievenpiper the report was accepted.

The Committee appointed to compile statistics respecting our brethren who had dealings with Military Tribunals, reported some progress, and upon motion were retained.- S. Goudie, S. F. Coffman.

It was moved by the brethren S. Cressman and E. Sievenpiper that Brother D. W. Heise be added to the Committee. - Carried.

An inquiry concerning the Committee appointed to investigate the earliest records of exemption for Mennonites and other non-resistant people, brought no report, as one of the members of the Committee was absent.- The Committee stands.- S. F. Coffman, D.W.Heise.

The reorganization was then effected with officers for the ensuing year as follows.-

Chairman, D. W. Heise, Gormleyb Ont.

Vice-chairman, L. J. Burkholder, Markham.

Secretary-Treasurer, S. F. Coffman, Vineland

Executive Committee,- D. W. Heise, S. F. Coffman, S. Goudie, Stouffville, C. Gascho, Baden, Thomas Reesor, Pickering.

Members of the organization stand as formerly, D.W.Heise, Gormley, L.B. Heise, Gormley, Reuben Heise, Gormley, L.J.Burkholder, Markham, David Bergey, New Dundee, Thomas Reesor, Pickering, Urias Martin, Waterloo, Noah Beringer, Elmira, Chr. Gascho, Baden, Jacob R. Bender, Tavistock, Chr. Schultz, Milverton and S. F. Coffman, Vineland. S. Goudie, Secretary. S. Goudie, Vineland Ont., G.N. Good, Kitchener, Ont., M. Bricker, 181. Brunswick av. Toronto Ont.

The report of the Treasurer was given and accepted, showing a balance of \$20.69 cents in the Treasury, to the credit of the Expense Account.

After a prolonged consideration of the present movement to bring Russian Mennonites to Canada this year, under the agreement made with the Canadian Pacific Railway Co. by the Canadian Mennonite Board of Colonization of Rosthern Sask, the following resolution was presented by motion of the brethren S. Cressman and D. Bergey.-

Whereas our Secretary has given us very helpful information regarding the transportation of immigrants from Russia, and the taking care of them when they arrive in this country,

Therefore, Resolved, That we express our appreciation of the same and further, that he issue a circular letter to the various congregations represented here and request the pastors to arrange for the soliciting of loans, either privately or at special meetings as may be decided advisable.

Upon Motion by Brother E. Sievenpiper, seconded by Bro.S. Cressman, the meeting adjourned at 3.30 P. M.

S. F. Coffman Secretary.

S. F. COFFMAN
VINELAND, ONTARIO

QUESTIONS FOR INFORMATION REGARDING THE EXPERIENCES OF OUR
NON/RESISTANT MEN WHEN CALLED BEFORE MILITARY TRIBUNALS.

1. At what time were you called to report under Military Service Act?
Give your age and your Church home.
2. To which tribunal did you first report? Name of place and Officers.
3. What claims did you enter for exemption from service?
4. What questions did the officers ask you regarding your Church membership?
5. What questions were asked you regarding the Church Doctrines?
6. What were you asked concerning your own faith and belief in the non-resistant doctrines and your practice of them?
7. What questions were you asked, or what cases did the tribunal present to test your non-resistant faith?
8. If the tribunal used the Scriptures to disprove the non-resistant doctrines, or to prove that war was right, what were the Scriptures?
9. What Scriptures did you use to prove the doctrine of the Church and your stand for non-resistance?
10. Did you pass the physical examination, if so, to what class were you assigned?
11. If not exempted, how was your case disposed of?
12. If exempted what was the nature of the exemption allowed?
13. What papers were given you for exemption?
14. If given a leave of absence, what papers did you receive and how often and where did you report?
15. Did you suffer any abuse? if so, what was the nature of it?
16. Did you receive any aid from ministers or others when you appeared before the tribunal? If so, what aid and by whom?
17. If forced into the camp for service, what was the nature of the service? and what did you do? or what did you suffer?
18. How and when were you dismissed from service? or what papers were given you at the close of the service or at the close of the War?